

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-03

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R 201715Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1292
USIA WASHDC

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USIA FOR IEE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, UR
SUBJECT: IZVESTIYA TAKES SCALPEL TO AP

REF: MOSCOW 9606

1. AS PART OF POSITIVE-THINKING CAMPAIGN FOR UNIVERSIADE GAMES, IZVESTIYA AUG. 18 CRITICIZED UNNAMED AP REPORTER (FYI, SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT WILL GRIMSLY) FOR QUOTING AMERICAN GYMNAST JOHN CROSBY, OPERATED ON IN MOSCOW HOSPITAL FOR ACUTE APPENDICITIS, TO AFFECT THAT CONDITIONS THERE "CERTAINLY NOT THE SAME" AS IN U.S.

IZVESTIYA IN TURN QUOTES BOTH CROSBY AND U.S. DELEGATION DOCTOR ON EXCELLENT TREATMENT AND CONCLUDES, "AMERICAN SPORTSMEN TRULY WERE ASHAMED OF THE SHAMELESSNESS OF THIS IMPUDENT REPORTER." NOTED WITHOUT COMMENT WAS AP CHARACTERIZATION OF AMERICAN SPORTSMEN AS PRISONERS IN MOSCOW UNIVERSITY HEADQUARTERS (SEE REFTEL).

2. COMMENT: SOVIET RESTRAINT TOWARD EARLIER AP AND OTHER PRESS DIGS AT EXTREMELY TIGHT SECURITY RESTRICTIONS HAD BROUGHT ONLY OBLIQUE REACTIONS LIKE TASS ENGLISH REPORTS ABOUT HOW HAPPY DELEGATIONS, ESPECIALLY U.S., WERE WITH ARRANGEMENTS. (E.G.,

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IZVESTIYA AUG. 17 RAN 10 INCHES ALONG THESE LINES FROM

U.S. OFFICIALS.) ALTHOUGH RUSSIANS ANXIOUS TO MAKE
UNIVERSIADE ALL-AROUND SUCCESS, SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION
LIKE MEDICAL ATTENTION NOT ONLY TOUCHES NORMAL
SENSITIVITIES BUT CASTS POTENTIAL SHADOW FOR FUTURE
OLYMPICS THEY HOPE TO ATTRACT.

DUBS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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